

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
UTILITY DIVISION  
AGENDA NO. 98-12-14**

Date Prepared: December 10, 1998  
For Work Week Commencing: December 14, 1998  
Business Meeting: December 14, 1998, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, placed on the state electronic bulletin board, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.mt.gov>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).

1. Montana Power Co Docket No. D97.11.219 – MPC gas financing transition bonds – discussion, direction, action as necessary (12/15/98)
2. Montana-Dakota Utilities Docket No. D98.11.274 – MDU Protective Order – Review and/or approve request by MDU for Protective Order (12/15/98)
3. Great Falls Gas Docket No. D98.3.68 – GFG restructuring – Discussion, direction, action on filing (12/15/98)
4. L-98-10-4-RUL – Pipeline safety rules – Joint hearing discussion and action on annual update to PSC pipeline safety rules (12/15/98)
5. USWC Docket No. D96.12.220 – NWPA vs PSC & USW – Discussion, action, update as necessary on pending judicial review (12/15/98)
6. Montana Power Company Docket No. D97.7.90 – MPC Universal System Benefits – Discuss CI-75 impacts on USB (12/15/98)

7. USWC Docket No. D98.10.243 – Custom Choice – USWC – To act on draft order (12/15/98)
8. USWC Docket D98.4.86 – USWC's dialing parity implementation plan – Discuss and Act on draft order (12/15/98)
9. AT&T Docket No. D98.10.220 et al – AT&T's bona fide requests to various telephone companies – Discuss carrier notification issues as they pertain to AT&T's bona fide requests for intraLATA equal access and other matters that may arise (12/15/98)

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

**Action Items** All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. PACIFICORP – D98.10.218 (Denise)

On December 3, 1998, the Commission granted motions for reconsideration of Plum Creek Timber Company, L.P., and Flathead Electric Cooperative's regulated affiliate Energy Northwest, Inc. (ENI) and established a procedure to allocate the net gain on PacifiCorp's distribution system sale to Flathead Electric. Order on Reconsideration for approval.

2. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY – Docket N98.11.277 (Vicki)

On November 27, 1998, Sprint filed tariff pages to make minimal text changes

3. WORLDCOM – Docket N98.12.279 (Tina)

On December 1, 1998, WorldCom Technologies filed tariff revisions to their Montana Price List Tariff. Requiring Commission action is a revision to the discount schedule for Metro Frame Relay Service.

**Notice Items** All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda.

1. CITIZENS UTILITIES DOCKET NO. D98.12.286 (Eric)

On December 7, 1998, Citizens filed an application proposing to transfer all of the Communications Business Sector's stock and ownership control of the Communications subsidiaries to a new holding company, Citizens Newco Company. Citizens represents that the proposed transaction will not adversely affect the quality of service, rates or reliability of service of the Montana Local Exchange Company. The local exchange rates charged by CTC-Montana will not change.

2. MDU – DOCKET NO. D98.11.274 (Jay)

On November 16, 1998, Montana Dakota Utilities Co. (MDU) filed for Commission approval to deviate from the floor price under Transportation Service Rate 81, 82, 84 to avoid a bypass of MDU facilities by Cenex. MDU has proposed a contract price of 6¢ per dk, which is below the currently authorized Rate 82 floor price of 10.1¢ per dk. MDU has stated that their marginal cost of providing service to Cenex on a stand-alone basis is below the negotiated rate of 6¢ per dk.

3. U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS – Docket N98.12.283 (Nina)

On December 3, 1998, U S West Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 98-AC05 "SCD Revision", to their Montana Access Tariff. This filing is to eliminate the per line charge rate element for Selective Carrier Denial charges to Carriers.

**Information Items** All items identified below are for information only.

D98.10.217 – Montana Power Company – Notice of Staff Action – Granting intervention

D98.9.213 – Great Falls Gas Co – Notice of Staff Action- Granting Intervention

**Tentative Action Items for Agenda 98-12-21**

Citizens Utilities Docket No. D98.12.286(Eric)

MDU Docket No. D98.11.274 (Jay)

USWC Docket No. N98.12.283 (Nina)

**New Filings Received in Past Week**

D98.12.281 – USWC /Advanced Communications – agreement for  
interconnection, resale, and unbundled elements

N98.12.282 – USWC – tariff filing 98-52 “Business Line Promo”

N98.12.283 – USWC – tariff filing 98=AC05 “SCD Revision”

N98.12.284 – USWC – tariff filing 98-53 “Intro of Centrex Prime”

N98.12.285 – Dukesolutions – application for final gas suppliers license

D98.12.286 – Citizens Communications – name change and split of holdings

N98.12.287 – Dukesolutions – application for permanent electricity suppliers  
license